Subsidence of Land in Bholgora

5538. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fresh incidents of land subsidence near east Kustore pit in Bhalgora area of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL);

(b) if so, the extent of damage caused so far to those areas under BCCL; and

(c) the scheme drawn up by BCCL to help the affected people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) Government are aware of the incident of land subsidence which occurred on 8.4.1997 at East Kustore section of Kustore colliery of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) resulting in development of cracks to thirty old arched type single room dhowras.

(c) All the affected quarters and the other quarters which were in the vicinity have been demolished and all concerned persons have been rehabilitated at a safe place.

School/Institutes Run by Coal India Limited

5539. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Schools, Colleges and other educational institutions are being run by Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and places where they are situated;

(c) the number of students, teaching and non-teaching staff in each institutions; and

(d) the amount spent of such institutions during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise in view of reply at (a) above.

Sugar Exports

5540. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sugar export has been facing rough weather for the last three months;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of sugar during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) issued a Trade Notice on 25.4.97 inviting applications for issue of RCAC for export of 155658 MTs of sugar. The salient features of Trade Notice are as under:-

(i) Each application is to be accompanied by proof of inward advance remittance received through a bank covering 100% FOB value or a bank authenticated irrevocable letter of credit or certified copy of the contract or a copy of export contract, a performance guarantee to the extent of 5% of the total FOB value of the contract, and in the case of merchant exporters, the name of sugar mill from which the sugar is to be contracted for exports;

(ii) Allocations shall be made on first-cum-first served basis to exporters. However, net value realisation shall be an over riding criterion for issuing a particular RCAC;

(iii) In case of applications not providing proof of 100% inward remittance or irrevocable letter of credit, RCAC with a validity of 3 months would be issued with the condition that if/the shipments are not affected within the validity period, the 5% performance guarantee furnished by the applicant shall stand forfeited without any further notice.

(iv) In case the application is based on a revolving irrevocable letter of credit or a contract for partial shipment, the RCAC would be granted only to the extent of a partial shipment stipulated in the contract.

(v) Each applicant would furnish the details of his Import-Export Code Number (IEC) and Registration Number with APEDA/Federation of Indian Exporters Organisation (FIEO) and applicants who are not registered with APEDA/FIEO currently, would be required to get themselves registered within one month of filing the application.

(vi) Shipments against the RCACs to be completed within the period of validity as specified in RCAC which shall not exceed three months.

(vii) Nominating Indian Sugar and General Industry Export Import Corporation Ltd. (ISGIEIC) to fulfill export obligations under the preferential quota to USA and European Union.

(viii) The Trade Notice provide an equal opportunity to all genuine exporters to obtain RCACs.

Import of Gold By MMTC

5541. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of gold Imported by Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. under the Earnest Money Scheme during each of the last three years;

(b) the quantity of gold supplied by MMTC to each exporter during the above period;

(c) how many of the exporters have complied with the export obligations; and

(d) if not, the action taken against the exporters who diverted the loaned gold in the domestic market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) There is no earnest money Scheme operated by MMTC for import of gold. However, the total quantity of gold imported by MMTC under the schemes of chapter VIII of Exim Policy during the last three years is as follows:-

Year	Qty. in Kgs.
1994-95	17985
1995-96	20140
1996-97 (as on 15.11.96)	12915
Total:	51040

(b) The total gold supplied to the jewellery exporters since 1994-95 upto 1996-97 (15.11.96) is 50991 Kgs.

(c) 19 exporters in EOUs/EPZs and 4 exporters in Domestic Tariff Area have defaulted in exporting gold jewellery under the schemes as reported by MMTC.

(d) 23 cases of alleged irregularities have been referred by MMTC to various investigating agencies including CBI, DRI, Enforcement Directorate and DGFT for investigation and necessary action.

Tea Auction Norms

5542. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tea Board had discussion with the Chair-Persons of the three auction Committees to standardise tea auction norms involving free trade samples in line with the recommendations of the Consultative Committee or of the Plantation Associations;

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussions;

(c) whether any decision has been taken to reduce sample quantity per lot;

(d) if so, whether all the three auction Committees were in agreement to revert to the three-year aggregate purchases norms; and

(e) if so, the details of the decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) tc (e) Suggestions of the Consultative Committee of Plantation Association for revision in the norms for purchase of teas at various auction centres were sent by the Tea Board to the Auction Committees at Calcutta, Siliguri and Guwahati, seeking their views in the matter. Views of the Calcutta Tea Auction Committee have since been received by the Tea Board, whereas replies from Guwahati Tea Auction Committee and Siliguri Tea Auction Committee are awaited. Tea Board will hold discussions with the Auction Committees after views of the remaining two committees are received, in order to improve the tea auction norms.

Payment of Dividend

5543. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the Public Sector Undertakings fail to comply with the Government's directives of 1996 to pay increased dividends;

(b) if so, the names of such Public Sector Undertakings;

(c) whether the Government have directed the financial advisors on the Board of PSUs to take steps to ensure Payment of dividend; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the details of steps likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) The Government have instructed the financial advisors of the administrative Ministries to ensure that the profit making PSUs which are essentially commercial declare a minimum stipulated dividend, based on their Net Profit after Tax or as percentage of paid up capital. However, depending upon their requirements for funds for their approved investment plans, the PSUs are permitted to finalise the level of dividend by mutual consultations.

[Translation]

Export Promotion Industrial Park

5544. SHRI N.J. RATHWA:

SHRI VIJAY PATEL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved eighteen proposals for setting up of export Promotion Industrial Park in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(c) the total funds earmarked by the Government for these Export Promotion Industrial Parks during 1997-98, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government have selceted the places for setting up more Export Promotion Industrial Park in the country for promoting export during the current year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?